

Richard Jordan's UN Library Project - meeting with the UVU Library directors



Mr. Richard Jordan meets with UVU Library officials

As part of his visit to UVU Mr. Richard Jordan held a meeting with the director and staff of the UVU Library to further discuss plans for Mr. Jordan to donate his extensive UN resource library to UVU. This meeting was precipitated by many hours of coordination and preparation by UIMF member Andrew Jensen and Mr. Jordan, who worked together to prepare and analyze a sample of documents for review by the Library staff.

Mr. Jordan has been amassing a very large, private collection of publications that have been presented at the UN. His collection contains tens of thousands of documents, books, magazines, letters and other documents. UVU Student Andrew Jensen has been working with Mr. Jordan for months to facilitate questions and answers between Mr. Jordan and the library directors and staff prior to this actual event. On Tuesday, April 9, 2019, Mr. Jordan met with Lesli A Baker, Director of the Mary Lou Fulton Library at UVU. Others in attendance included Dr. Abdrisaev, UIMF mentor, student Andrew Jensen, me, as well as other library staff. The purpose of the meeting was

exploratory as a second look at the collection, and to discuss the feasibility of creating a UN/NGO collection at the UVU Library, which would be only the second collection of its kind outside of the UN itself.

- Copyright issues: The library staff shared concerns that some of the information in the collection might be copyrighted. Mr. Jordan committed to undertake clearance of all information.
- Digitizing information: A focus by all present was that the smaller documents and publications would need to be converted to digital format. All involved agreed that through study programs, internships and/or other student involvement that a plan for digitization would need to be approved and implemented.
- The entire size of the collection is contained in eight 3' x 3' x 3' containers, which is a substantial size.
- UVU will need to cover the costs of the project, including the delivery costs of all material. Mr. Jordan has ideas of how to better organize the information that will make transportation, delivery and receipt of information an easier process. Ultimately, the documents will be delivered in sections. Through this way, the data will be easier to organize when it arrives at UVU, and Mr. Jordan can help coordinate the effort remotely.
- The group was able to discuss possibilities for future internships directed towards the effort. In the end most of the questions put forth by the library staff were answered or written down with a promise of a forthcoming answer by Mr. Jordan.

If the project is ultimately approved, the anticipation is that the UN library would help UVU forge a stronger commitment to the UN and the ECOSOC.

After a thoughtful discussion, the group agreed on action items and tasks for the project to be pushed down the road to the next phase in the feasibility checkup.

Joel Frost, President of the UVU Foreign Affairs Club